

NDAU Task Information

Verbal Reasoning

What is verbal reasoning?

Verbal reasoning involves the ability to understand and reason using words.

Why is verbal reasoning important?

Children with good verbal reasoning ability are thought to do well in curriculum areas that require fluent verbal thinking.

How does the NDAU measure verbal reasoning?

We measure verbal reasoning using tasks from the Lucid Ability tests that take account of the child's age.

Children aged 4 – 6 years old will complete the Picture Vocabulary task. Five pictures appear on the screen in random positions (see Figure 1). The child is given audio instructions: "Which picture goes best with the word ...?" and has to click on the correct picture. The program is adaptive so the task will become harder or easier depending on performance.

Children aged 7 or above will complete the Link Word task (See Figure 2). In this task two pictures are presented on the screen and separated by six words. The child's task is to identify the word that provides the best conceptual link between the two pictures. If the child wishes, the computer will speak the words when they are clicked on, so reading competence is not necessary.



Figure 1. Picture Vocabulary Task

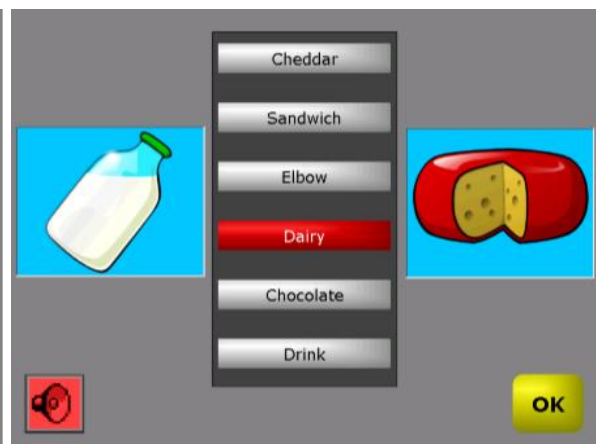


Figure 2. Link Word Task